(d) what is the assessment of such permission;

(e) whether it is a fact that foreign fund-seeking has become more of a prestigious administrative attraction in lieu of any improvement in the functioning of above institutions; and

(f) whether this policy will be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) SCICI and ICICI were allowed access to external commercial borrowings to finance their lending operations.

(c) to (e) The necessity for raising funds, the choice of markets and the manner in which funds are to be raised are all commercial decisions left to the individual organisations within the broad parameters of Government policy, taking into consideration the various options available.

(f) Does not arise.

Income Tax on Minors

2121. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are levying income tax on minors who are allowed to work as per law by clubbing their income with that of their parents;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to reverse this policy.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No, Sir. The income derived by the minor from manual work or from any activity involving a specialised knowledge or experience is not clubbed with the income of his parent.

(b) and (c) In view of the reply to part (a) ,(b) and (c) do not arise.

Customs Clearance at Hyderabad

2122. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state-

(a) how many passengers have been cleared by Customs at Hyderabad Air port in 1992-93 and 1993-94, till the 31st January, 1994;

(b) whether most of these passengers are Hyderabadi workers returning from the Middle East;

(c) if so, what special steps Government are proposing to help workers returning from Middle East to have easy clearance from Customs;

(d) whether Government are aware that very often Hyderabad workers returning from Middle East are not given assistance in Bombay or at other customs; and

(e) if so, steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) During the financial year 1992-93, 11,327 passengers were cleared through customs from Hyderabad airport. During current year, 10625 passengers have cleared through customs at Hyderabad airport upto 31-01-1994.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) All passengers clearing through customs are treated with courtesy without discrimination for the purpose of expeditious clearance.

Opening of Income Tax Offices in Andhra Pradesh

2123. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government are proposing to open more offices of Income Tax Department, at Commissioner level, in Andhra Pradesh;